

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MEETING



Chairperson
Sara Carda

Vice Chairperson
Jolie Tostenson

Panel Functions

- Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities
- Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities
- Review and comment on final due process hearing findings and decisions
- Advise on eligible students with disabilities in adult prisons- The advisory panel also shall advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons

Panel Priorities

- State Performance Plan
- Child Find
- Ensuring quality service providers are available to children with disabilities

Minutes
September 26th, 2011

Members Present	Members Absent
Lisa Heckenlaible	Heather Stettinichs
Todd Christensen	Elaine Roberts
Bernie Grimme	Lori Dennison
Greg Riley	Kerry Larson
Greg Cooch	Nora Svatos
Mark Krogstrand	
Gail Eichstadt	
Doug Herrmann	
Laura Johnson-Frame	
Michelle Greseth	
Roger Bowie	
Sarah Carda	
Sara Hoogheem	
Marie Ivers	
Jolie Tostenson	
Shelly Shaw	
Judy Hoscheid	

Department of Education	
Angie Boddicker (phone)	Special Education Programs
Alicia Schoenhard	Special Education Programs
Merle Doolittle	Special Education Programs

Acronyms used:

SPP: State Performance Plan
APR: Annual Performance Report
SEP: State Education Program
OSEP: Office of Special Education Programs
SD DOE: South Dakota Department of
Education
TSLP: Transition Services Liaison Project

Opening Remarks

Ann Larsen began by welcoming members. Sara Carda, Chairperson reviewed the agenda and minutes with the panel.

Approval of the Agenda

Action Item - Members to accept agenda for September 26-27, 2011.

Motion to accept:	Bernie Grimme
Second motion to accept:	Lisa Heckenlaible

Panel Vote:

Yes	All Members
No	None
Abstain	None

Approval of Minutes

Action Item - Members to accept the **June 20th - 21st, 2011** Minutes.

Motion to accept:	Bernie Grimme
Second motion to accept:	Mark Krogstrand

Panel Vote:

Yes	All Members
No	None
Abstain	None

Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

Minutes Approved (As Read) (As Amended)

Chairperson _____

Signature

Date

Living A Self Directed Life

Presented by

Dillon Haug and Beth Haug

Dillon suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury as a result of a car accident. He and his mother, Beth, now travel speaking to groups about how Dillon lives his daily life in Spearfish, SD. They recently presented in MN and Sioux Falls. Some of Dillon's favorite places and things to do in Spearfish include: coffee at common grounds, Spearfish Park and Recreation, Black Hills State University Men's Basketball, Spearfish Lions Club, and Festival in the Park.

In middle school, Dillon participated in Project Skills. He also has participated in Person-Centered Planning and lead his own IEP meetings and traveled to DC through the National Youth Leadership Forum. He also participated as a high school student in the South Dakota Youth Leadership Forum.

Dillon has written a book in which he tells of his experiences growing up with TBI, and the many activities and events he is and has been involved in in the community.

Due Process, Mediation, and Complaints

Presented by

Ann Larsen, SD DOE

Ann presented to the group the sample forms that are now available on the DOE website, and covered issues that were brought up as a result of the complaints:

- IEEs, IEP team participation, evaluation procedures, held meeting without proper team members.

Ann also informed the group that IEP facilitations began last year, and that there are brochures available on the DOE website, along with a request form. The facilitators are contracted through TAESE, therefore, requests for facilitation should be submitted within 2 weeks of the scheduled meeting.

A Q&A document is also available on Complaints and Mediations. This guide was written as part of the NICHY Modules.

As a result of discussions around the complaints, SEP has determined that prior notice procedures will be "beefed up" at IEP workshops for better results, as well as the referral process. All LEAs have been requested to update comprehensive plans.

The overall amount of complaints/due process hearings has not greatly increased/changed from year to year. With resources like the Navigator Program at SD PC increasing awareness, the number of cases coming in to them has increased.

State Initiatives

Presented by

Micky Wienk, TIE

Micky presented on the results of the Year 4 Data Report for Response to Intervention (RTI) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) pilot projects. The final report is not yet completed for the PBIS project, but overall response rates for both projects was high. Survey results for RTI showed 64% of superintendents responded and 83% teachers responded. Micky requested the panel provide comments and recommendations to the state directors of each project for moving forward, these were the panel's comments:

- ❖ Data seems to be valid and reliable, most items were at 70% or above, they appreciated the data analysis in detail;
- ❖ Wanted to know how schools were chosen and why, and how targeted strategies are chosen;
- ❖ would like to see a focus on the two initiatives in the annual report, and that they both should be promoted as working with all students, not just those with special needs;
- ❖ recommended the teams use testimonials from teacher and parents to "sell" the projects, panel members are also encouraged to return to constituents and promote;
- ❖ members would like to see a comparison of the data to DakotaSTEP scores;
- ❖ would like to see other content areas explored and strategies shared;
- ❖ as results show parents may not know about RTI, common language should be used at all levels including the family level;
- ❖ could be potential for research project to show effect size of the initiatives and interventions used;
- ❖ panel could share and promote for both initiatives to an admin group;

The directors for both initiatives appreciate the efforts and recommendations of the panel, and will look for ways to help involve those that may be interested.

OSEP Review

Presented by

Ann Larsen, SDDOE

Three parts covered in review: General Supervision, Data, and Fiscal Management. These were consistent with the topics covered in the monthly calls with OSEP prior to the review. Topics and parent concerns brought up as a result of the survey distributed through SD Parent Connections:

- some were previous complaints that had already been taken care of;
- a district's mental health policy that involves a student being required to complete a psych eval before returning to school was found to be a tribal policy vs public policy;
- reservation schools are treated as public when monitored by the state team;
- IEEs - procedures were updated within LEA comprehensive plans;
- Evaluations and assessments for TBI will be looked at;
- Procedures for collecting data concerning suspension/expulsion;
- Qualifications of due process hearing officers;

Guidance and monitoring in fiscal management began immediately when notification was given as part of review. The only compliance issue with fiscal will be the calculation of excess cost. At the time, districts had not been asked to provide this. Costs will need to be broken out into Elem and Secondary.

Indicator 14, Results Indicator Update from OSEP workgroup

Presented by

Dr. Greg Cooch, BHSU

Before Indicator 14 work, this specific data had not been collected concerning what was happening with students after they exited high school. Dr. Cooch explained the definition of “engaged” for this particular indicator as being attending higher ed, participating in competitive employment (for more than 90 days), and other employment. The group identified that activities that are recognized nationally are happening in South Dakota as well, and having an impact on post-school outcomes for students.

Special Education Program Updates

Presented by

Alicia Schoenhard, SDDOE

Alicia shared a list of updated documents including the Parents Rights Handbook, IEP TA Guide, Discipline Guidance, and the SPED Data Elements Manual. All listed documents were updated between July and August, and can be found on the DOE website (<http://doe.sd.gov>). Monitoring procedures are undergoing a slight change. Districts will be notified by team leaders about upcoming reviews. At this time, districts will be asked to submit a pre-site performance document to include information about indicator performance. Districts are asked to include information about one indicator in which the district is performing well, and the activities carried out. They are also asked to include information about one indicator in which the district would like to improve their performance and what activities they will be implementing to make these improvements. A list of trainings and workshops that will be happening in the near future or throughout the school year were also shared. Panel members are welcome to participate in any of these. Information about current listservs maintained by the SEP offices are also available to panel members to stay connect and receive updates and notices.

Interagency Agreements

Presented by

Ann Larsen, SDDOE

Ann gave an update of the active interagency agreements with the Department of Corrections, Department of Social Services, South Dakota Board of Regents, and Transition Programs. Concerns were discussed regarding due process rights of students attending special schools.

Schedule Upcoming Meeting

The panel agreed to hold the January meeting via LiveMeeting on the 19th, and the April meeting in Sioux Falls on the 25th -26th. Location for the Sioux Falls meeting is still pending. A visit to the Braille unit was suggested for the Sioux Falls meeting.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn	
Motion to accept:	Bernie Grimme
Second motion to accept:	Greg Cooch
Panel Vote:	
Yes	All Members
No	None
Abstain	None

Reminder

Next Meeting: We will meet via LiveMeeting on January 19th, 2012, beginning at 10:00 am CST